

Rates Postponement Policy

Policy on Postponement for Extreme Financial Hardship

The policy offers rates postponement to ratepayers that may be suffering or have suffered extreme financial hardship.

Objectives of the Policy

To assist ratepayers experiencing extreme financial circumstances which affect their ability to pay their rates

Conditions and Criteria

1. When considering whether extreme financial circumstances exist, all of the ratepayer's personal circumstances will be relevant including the following factors: age, physical or mental disability, injury, illness and family circumstances.
2. The ratepayer must be the current owner of, and have owned for not less than 5 years, the rating unit which is the subject of the application
3. The rating unit must be used solely as the primary residence for the applicant.
4. Ratepayers making application under this policy must provide Council with all information requested.
5. Any postponement of rates shall be for the period specified by Council.
6. The payment of postponed rates shall be as specified by Council.
7. All postponements shall be reviewed by Council every three years.
8. All postponements shall be by written contract signed by all parties.
9. All postponements shall be registered on the title.

Should Council determine that any information was provided with dishonest intent the postponement will be cancelled and all postponed rates will become immediately payable and subject to Council's penalty policies.